



ADVISORY NOTICE

No. 08-004

SUBJECT: Electronic Licensing Transition

ISSUED: 15 May 2008

The Division of EMS is beginning its long-awaited transition to the Department of Health's electronic licensing system. When we go live in early 2009, this new system will provide a number of benefits to the EMS community including greater efficiency and accuracy in processing EMT licensure and renewal applications. We will also be able to issue license cards to EMTs for the first time in nearly a decade.

A key step in this process is that our current scheme of expiration dates must be changed to bring us in line with the State's other licensed health professions. As a result, all Rhode Island EMTs will be transitioned to share a single tri-annual expiration date instead of being grouped by affiliation, as is the current practice. The only exception will be EMT-Paramedics – paramedic licenses are synchronized with the National Registry and consequently will not change under this transition.

Effective May 1, 2008, all non-paramedic Rhode Island EMT license expiration dates are being changed as described below:

If your current expiration date is...	Then...
6/30/2008 through 9/30/2009	Your new expiration date is 12/31/2009
12/31/2009 through 12/31/2010	Your expiration date is unchanged. When you renew, your next expiration date will be 12/31/2012
3/30/2011 or thereafter	Your new expiration date is 12/31/2012

Please note that no further action is required on your part to extend your license to your new expiration date as listed above. Additionally, this license extension does not impact refresher training programs; the refresher requirement for renewal remains unchanged. If an individual has already completed their refresher in anticipation of a 6/30/08 renewal (for example), that refresher will still fulfill the requirements for their new 12/31/09 renewal date. An additional refresher will not be required.

Every Rhode Island EMT will shortly be mailed a letter confirming their new individual expiration date. Upon receipt, that letter should be kept on file with all other licensure paperwork and will serve as official documentation that the EMT's license remains in effect through the new expiration date.

We are working diligently with the Department of Health licensing team to complete this process with as little disruption to the EMS community as possible. Should you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact the Division of EMS at (401) 222-2401 or sam.adams@health.ri.gov.